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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/699,749	11/03/2003	Loren D. Mock	A10019 1010.1 (24.9)	4254
30166	7590	02/16/2006	EXAMINER	
WOMBLE CARLYLE SANDRIDGE & RICE PLLC 300 N. GREENE STREET SUITE 1900 GREENSBORO, NC 27401			JOHNSON, BLAIR M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3634	

DATE MAILED: 02/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/699,749	Applicant(s) MOCK, LOREN	
	Examiner Blair M. Johnson	Art Unit 3634	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 December 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1,2 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being clearly anticipated by Leist et al 2002/0179255.

'255 discloses embossed (paragraph 0012) panels made of metal or plastic (paragraph 0029) that have raised portions thereon that cooperate to form an overall appearance of the door when it is closed. The panels are further embossed to look like wood grain. The recitation that the door provide a simulated double door is clearly an objective limitation based on individual interpretations of it's appearance and the definition of "doors". There is no set definition of "vertically hung doors" and such is further dependant on the subjective view and opinion of each individual that views the door. One looking at the door in Fig. 1 of Leist et al may think it looks like two doors, or three doors, that hang on vertical hinges.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

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invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leist et al '255 in view of Forsland 6,446,695.

Forsland discloses a multipaneled garage door which simulates double doors. While Leist et al does not simulate typical doors as presently disclosed, i.e. with diagonal portions, tongue and groove, etc., he is clearly concerned with decorative appearances. Consequently, it would have been obvious to modify Leist et al whereby he provides his door with the appearance of the Forsland doors. Modifications of the appearances taught by Forsland would also have been obvious since such is the subject of design choice based purely on aesthetics.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Leist et al discloses door panels made of thin metal that has been embossed to form a decorative façade. The source of contention is whether the panels give the appearance of two separate vertically hung doors, either alone or as modified by Forsland. Applicant has argued that the Examiner is of the opinion that the recitation of the appearance of the door as two vertically hung doors is "either unclear or indefinite". This is not correct. What the Examiner does believe, and has further stated, is that such a recitation is broad because there is no set definition of "vertically hung doors" and that such is further dependant on the subjective view and opinion of each individual that views the door. One looking at the door in Fig. 1 of Leist et al may think it looks like two doors, or three doors, that hang on vertical hinges. To suggest otherwise is to

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presumptively believe that all vertically hung doors ever constructed have the appearance of that of the present invention. Furthermore, each rectangle formed by the embossed moldings in Leist et al in itself may be viewed as having the appearance of a door. Regarding the modification of Leist et al by Forsland, Forsland clearly teaches the appearance as is disclosed by Applicant, thereby removing any contention regarding what a vertically hung door is supposed to look like. Applicant states that the vertical grooves are not taught, but such grooves are evident in several locations in Forsland, including at 47A, column 8, lines 32-34. The panels in the simulated double doors of Forsland have several grooves to give the “ beadboard” appearance, as in the present invention.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

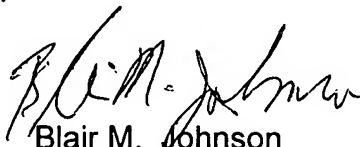
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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Blair M. Johnson whose telephone number is (571) 272-6830. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Chilcot can be reached on (571) 272-6777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Blair M. Johnson
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3634

BMJ
2/13/06